

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

RYAN ELLIOT FEHDERAU,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES,

Defendant.

8:18CV591

**MEMORANDUM
AND ORDER**

This matter is before the court on two motions filed by Plaintiff Ryan Elliot Fehderau, a non-prisoner.

First, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis. ([Filing No. 2.](#)) Upon review of Plaintiff's Motion, the court finds that Plaintiff is financially eligible to proceed in forma pauperis.

Plaintiff has also filed a Motion for Exemption from Payment of the PACER User Fee. ([Filing No. 5.](#)) Plaintiff submitted a CM/ECF NextGen e-filing request and was granted access on December 28, 2018. Plaintiff now requests an exemption from payment of the Electronic Public Access Fee ("PACER User Fee") prescribed in accordance with [28 U.S.C. § 1914](#). However, Plaintiff is automatically exempted from the PACER User Fee as set forth in NEGenR [1.3\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)\(i\)](#):

- (A) **Exemptions from PACER User Fees:** The PACER user fee does not apply to:
- (i) official recipients of electronic documents, i.e., parties legally required to receive service or to whom service is directed under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Official

recipients receive the initial electronic copy of a document free to download as they see fit, but if they remotely access the document again, they are charged the standard PACER user fee.

Thus, Plaintiff is not required to pay the PACER User Fee for the initial copy of any electronic document filed in this case to which Plaintiff is entitled to receive service. Given this automatic exemption from the PACER User Fee, the court does not find that a discretionary exemption is necessary to avoid unreasonable burdens on Plaintiff. Plaintiff's motion for exemption from the PACER User Fee is, therefore, denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis ([filing no. 2](#)) is granted, and the Complaint shall be filed without payment of fees. Plaintiff is advised that the next step in his case will be for the court to conduct an initial review of his claims to determine whether summary dismissal is appropriate under [28 U.S.C. § 1915\(e\)\(2\)](#). The court will conduct this initial review in its normal course of business.

2. Plaintiff's Motion for Exemption from Payment of the PACER User Fee ([filing no. 5](#)) is denied to the extent Plaintiff seeks a discretionary exemption above and beyond the automatic exemption he receives as a case participant.

Dated this 31st day of December, 2018.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Richard G. Kopf
Senior United States District Judge